

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST



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21 AUGUST 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Laos

a. The military commander of the northern province of Phong Saly, who is loyal to Souvanna and is now on duty with him in Vientiane, has sent home word to his followers that trouble may be ahead. In an obvious reference to the ICC inspection issue, he wired yesterday that "the three factions have run into the greatest difficulty" and are on the verge of a "falling-out." He ordered increased vigilance in Phong Saly, since if the coalition comes apart, "the Reds will doubtless take over all of the province."

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b. The coalition members have gone through another cabinet session without breaking the impasse over checkpoints, and chances are fading fast that the August 22 deadline for agreement fixed at Geneva will be met.

2. Congo

a. The reunification proposals have been presented to Adoula by the UN representatives in Leopoldville and go next to the Congolese cabinet. Adoula's first reaction was described as "reserved," but the UN people are confident of his eventual acceptance.

b. The Belgian government is, however, far less optimistic, fearing that Adoula and his colleagues will want to make significant changes which will go beyond what Brussels can agree to.

3. Berlin

a. There is no word yet on the scope of today's demonstrations in West Berlin, but the West Berlin police were taking up positions this morning with no reason to expect that the disorders would taper off.

b. An apprehensive Mayor Brandt has asked for a meeting with the Western Commandants today to discuss ways of checking the riots.

c. The Western Commandants yesterday worked out a proposal-- approval for which they are now seeking from their governments--for stationing an ambulance and a medical unit in full view at Checkpoint Charlie, ready to give aid to any East German casualties near the Wall.

NOTES

- A. Japan-USSR Japanese and Soviet negotiations on a deal for building twelve tankers and five freighters in Japanese shipyards are settled except for the financing arrangements--but these have upset trade negotiations on past occasions. The Soviet ocean-going tanker fleet is being increased by six ships this year, and if this new deal is completed the fleet will double its tonnage by 1965.
- B. Indonesia With Sukarno's voice added, the top layer of the Indonesian government is now just about unanimous in urging that Ambassador Bunker be selected as the UN administrator for West New Guinea.
- C. France [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] France will have no part of a test-ban treaty 50X1
until it has detonated its own hydrogen bomb or
until the US has relaxed restrictions on the disclosure of nuclear secrets. [redacted] 50X1
- D. Pakistan-Afghanistan The Afghans have joined the Pakistanis in agreeing to a meeting of foreign ministers under the Shah's aegis in Tehran. The scheduling has not yet been ironed out.